



First Presbyterian Church of San Bernardino

First Press

Volume 58, Issue 6

July 2021

We celebrate 2021 San Bernardino High School students who have participated in the LifeSkillz program.



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Worship in July

In the last year, we have met via pre-recorded services, Zoom, livestream, in Magnolia Courtyad, and in the Fellowship Hall. On June 6, we celebrated our graduates in the Fellowship Hall.

Beginning on the fourth, if the way be clear, we'll be inside on Sundays. (Hymn sing is not advisable and also Curtiss will lead the 4th of July band in Redlands that day, so we will sing "Gather Us In," and focus our worship on gathering rather than on the 4th.)

For the foreseeable future, all services will be livestreamed, so folks can watch safely from home, and also join us from vacation, or the hospital, or...

Eventually we will reinstate singing, but that continues to be challenging in terms of medical data. Some churches have brought back singing by asking that everyone sing with masks on...I am sure we will figure something out in the next few weeks. Meanwhile, the return of the choir is just a delight!!

~Sandy

Memorial Service

A memorial service for Sally Morris will take place in the sanctuary on Thursday, July 1, at 3:00 pm. We will share stories and scripture and hymns; we will share tears and laughter; we will allow God's Spirit to comfort our sorrowing and grateful hearts.

We hope you will be able to join us either in person or from home.

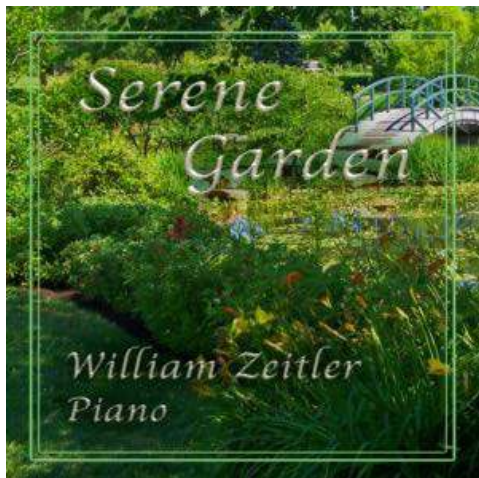
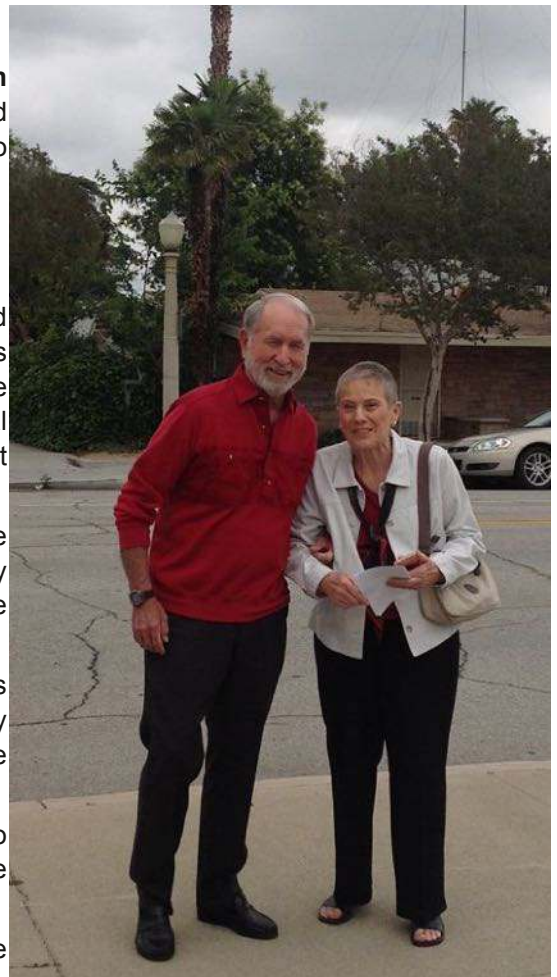
Some details on safety:

- Our sanctuary air circulation and filtration systems have been assessed and upgraded: our exhaust fan refurbished, our HVAC air intake panels fully opened, and all our ductwork meticulously cleaned. We now have very good airflow, which makes the space much safer in terms of viral transmission. Because we will be continually bringing in fresh air, it may be warmer than usual.
- Because we expect many people to attend, some of whom have traveled recently, we will be masking. We will not be as socially distanced as has become standard- we simply do not have the square footage. We will be sitting closer together in order to make room for all.
- If this makes you uncomfortable in any way, please feel free to join us from home – the service will be live-streamed so all can participate fully in a manner that feels safe for them. We love you and want to include you, whatever your situation.

A reception will follow in Fellowship Hall with light refreshments in order to make space for conversation and connection. This may feel risky for some and so we will offer two other options:

- EZup tents for shade and a fan for breeze will be set up in the children's courtyard, with wrapped snacks and water available for those who would prefer that option. We know being outdoors is always safer, and you are welcome to visit this way if it seems right to you.
- Tables will be set up in Magnolia Courtyard so that you may write a note to Pat or members of the Morris family. This will allow those who would rather not visit with others who are eating and drinking (with their masks off) to convey their personal love and appreciation to those who have lost the most. A striking feature of Sally's year of illness was the power of cards to convey Grace that sustained them. Pat and Sally read each card over and over, marveling at their beauty and simplicity. An offering of notes will allow us to honor Sally's own brilliance at handwritten notes and allow those who need to take precautions to express their love at this time.

Photo of Pat and Sally Morris outside the sanctuary on a Sunday morning.



New Album

Organist and congregation member William Zeitler has been composing and producing a new album over the last months. Here is how he describes it:

Each day I experience sadness as I see the suffering of loved ones near and far, as well as the joy of a beautiful day and watching children play. We need an inner place to sit quietly and reflect on the sorrow and anger, and also the joy and grandeur – of all that comes into our lives. I wrote Serene Garden to be a musical cocoon and sanctuary, a place to give your soul a rest, a place to feel once again the width and height and depth of what it is to be human.

You can listen to samples of the songs and order the album from William's website, <https://grailheart.com/product/serene-garden/>.



Notes

The *First Press*, the newsletter of the First Presbyterian Church of San Bernardino, is edited by Wendy Lamb. Please submit content to Wendy at newsletter@fpcsb.net.

Deadline for the August issue of the *First Press*: Thursday, July 15



Saying Farewell to Carol

At the Presbyterian Women's Gathering on June 7, we said farewell to Carol Valentine who will be leaving us in July to live with family in Ohio. As she was presented with a gift, this is what we said about her:

Carol, You have been a part of our church's community for decades. You have been involved in and contributed to our Presbyterian Women at different times and in many different ways. You have been a Circle Moderator, a Presbyterian Women's Coordinating Team (PWCT) Secretary as well as a PWCT Moderator, not to mention always changing our PW bulletin board. In 2001, you were given the Honorary Life Membership because of that commitment to the purpose of Presbyterian Women. It is my honor to give you

this token of our Love and appreciation of your dedication to Presbyterian Women here at First Presbyterian Church, San Bernardino.

Carol's circle presented her with the tote bag above left as a keepsake and reminder.



Circle of Hope Invites You

The small but mighty and spirit-filled Circle of Hope invites any ladies who would like to join us on the **fourth Tuesday of each month at 1:00 p.m.** The is a Presbyterian Women's Circle with monthly fellowship and Bible study. Come and see. Contact Irene Sandoval if you have any questions.



Volunteer for Food Ministry

July's monthly food distribution is Saturday, July 17 with bagging on Friday, July 16. Whether you are ready to return or have never volunteered before, we invite you to come between 8:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. either morning. Food is bagged inside of Fellowship Hall and distributed in the parking lot through one drive-thru station and one walk-up station.

We also distribute food each Tuesday and Thursday from 9 am – 11 am, now from Room 12. If you have any questions or can help by volunteering, please contact Rick Rodriguez.

In Memoriam

June 2021

Robert Short

June 28, 1943 - June 5, 2021

Sally Morris

April 23, 1939 - June 11, 2021

"In life and in death we belong to God."

July 4 Worship

On July 4, we will meet in the Sanctuary for worship. The service will also be livestreamed or recorded. **This will not be a hymn sing service** (congregational singing is still discouraged), but will focus on regathering as a community. We hope to see you in the sanctuary or on YouTube.

A Graduation Moment

(We had trouble with the livestream technology on June 6 when we honored our LifeSkillz Students and our Presbyterian graduates. For those who were not present and could not access the video, here is a moment of grace we shared. Sandy spoke the following words, the italics describe what happened.)

As we close this service we give thanks for **all accomplishments, all graduations-thru all the years of our lives**. Each represents more than can be contained in one celebration: each graduation represents a journey and unseen strength.

For example: 7 years ago a student came in to LifeSkillz as a freshman. A couple years later, she was hired as our Sunday nursery attendant. After high school, she became a member of our congregation. When she went off to UC Riverside, the Leonard Scholarship Committee gladly invested in her as a first-generation college student. She completed her degree in 3 years because of AP credits she earned while in high school, and her graduation date is this coming Friday.

Her graduation, like so many, will not be what one dreams of. Seeing that attendance was extremely limited, regalia was not free, and her friends were not graduating until next year (so she could not sit with them), this student decided to participate in the online option.

But **we** wanted to see her in cap & gown and honor her journey- and since we are here in person, we figured we could. So, Alexia Aguilar? Please come here. *(Lynda Savage & Bobbi Cummings proceeded to robe her in cap, gown, and tassel, along with custom made stole with her school and year made by Rachel Garvin.)*

As the only grad this year who is **both** a LifeSkillz student and a member of First Pres we Alexia to **represent all the graduates we honor today, as we create a 1 minute graduation remembrance moment**.

Let the music begin! *(William Zeitler began playing Pomp and Circumstance. Lynda and Bobbi pushed Alexia out from behind dividers and she walked to the lectern, turned, and processed up the aisle as the congregation rose and spontaneously applauded. Sandy may have cried a little.)*

Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Studies: Alexia Aguilar!

It was a good day.



Keep Military Members in Your Prayers

LCpl Jacob Allen,
Cherry Point, North Carolina

PFC Ronaldo Fregoso,
US Marine Corps, 29 Palms

Colonel Jeff Le Roy,
US Army Reserve

Seaman Mark Munz,
US Navy, San Diego

Private Javier Rocha,
US Army, Fort Benning, Georgia

Seaman Robert Sandoval,
US Navy, Virginia



Petty Officer Noah L. Wierenga,
U.S. Coast Guard Sector, San Diego

CW3 James Bentley Wilson,
US Army, Joint Base Lewis-McChord, WA

On June 20, **Jeremy Allen** stopped to say goodbye on his way to meet his recruiter to report for boot camp. He thanked the congregation for many years of love and support. He is currently waiting out 2-weeks quarantine. We will have an address for you and he will join our other military members in this box next month.

Mimi on Mimi

Introduction by Margaret Doane, Stewardship; Answers written by Mimi Lange

I originally asked Mimi for a brief bio before the pandemic when members of several Circles were interviewed for First Pres. This month I asked some additional questions. Mimi's answers are so articulate and so Mimi that they are included in their entirety below, along with the more factual information from the Circle of Faith article.

Mimi Lange has been attending this Church since she began working here as Office Administrator in December 2006, and she and husband Bill became members in 2014.

Mimi has been a member of the choir for five years and a member of the Circle of Faith for nine years. She has been involved with the Worship Committee, the Stewardship Committee, and the Buildings and Grounds Committee as part of her job, so she notes she "doesn't get volunteer credit for them."

Mimi's husband Bill died in October of 2015, so her family now consists of son Sam; two cats Greebo and Church; and two dogs Allie and Speedy.

Mimi notes that she reads a lot, with "murder mysteries and Terry Pratchett being favorites"; is "very fond of murder TV shows" and romantic comedy movies, as well as off-beat comedies. In the past she has been interested in embroidery, photography, and cooking, but seems "to be more interested in passive pursuits at this time." She occasionally writes poetry, prayers, or prose.

Brothers and sisters: I always said I have two and half brothers, the eldest being my half brother Geoff (deceased), who I never met as he was an adult when I was born and he lived in England. (My mother was British.) My next brother, Allen, is ten years older than me, and the youngest brother, Clive, is 7 years older than me. So I was the youngest, the only girl, and the last baby. I was spoiled rotten.

Where you grew up: I grew up in Henderson, Nevada. Near Las Vegas, but not in Las Vegas. We resented being called a suburb of Las Vegas when I was there.

What schools you attended: I attended Townsite Elementary and Park Village Elementary (since renamed Robert Taylor Elementary), Henderson Junior High School (since renamed Lyle Burkholder Middle School), and Basic High School (since renamed Basic Academy) all in Henderson. Then I went to United States International University in San Diego for four years, majoring in Musical Theatre Acting. I earned my BFA in 1978.

What Churches you've attended: I grew up with a Church of England mother and a Latter Day Saint father, so I was baptized in the local Episcopal church, but attended sporadically. I attended the local Mormon church with my friends rather more. In eighth or ninth grade, I was baptized in the Mormon church, somewhat to my mother's chagrin. In tenth grade I realized that I didn't actually believe some of the church's tenets, and I wasn't likely to believe them, so stopped attending. (Also, Richard Langford never showed any interest in dating me.) As an adult, I took catechism classes with a Roman Catholic church, but did not ultimately join, and visited many congregations, but never actually joined a church. While married to my first husband, an Army NCO, I started going to the Episcopal service on Sundays. When said NCO and I divorced, I moved back to Henderson, and began to attend the Episcopal Church in Boulder City, Nevada with friends. I became a member of St. Richard's Episcopal Church in Skyforest when I moved to California in 1992, and at some point transferred my membership to St. Francis Episcopal Church on Sterling Avenue. Our attendance there was sporadic, mostly due to the difficulty of persuading ourselves to get up in time to drive down here for Sunday service. In 1999, I became the church secretary for the Community Presbyterian Church in Crestline, and about a year later, my husband Bill suggested we join. I remained a member there until 2014, when I transferred my membership to this church.

Interests and hobbies: Still read a lot, and am currently binge-watching "The Big Bang Theory", which I missed the last several seasons of when it was on CBS. I do a Sudoku every day, and also play a Mahjong type game on my phone. For the past two years, I've been exploring spirituality with groups from Stillpoint, "an open, inclusive community that exists to form deeply grounded spiritual directors, and to live together in a contemplative life of faith, spiritual practice, and action."

Continued on next page



Mimi on Mimi, continued from previous page

Other jobs you've had: I have been a box office manager, an actress/stage manager/costume mistress, a paste-up artist, a proofreader, a hotel clerk, a night auditor, a secretary, a church secretary, a bookkeeper, and very briefly, a secret shopper.

What your current job entails: A little bit of all the above? I quote my job description: "The Office Administrator provides administrative and other support services to the pastor, other church staff, and committees and organizations within the church. He/she provides oversight on financial matters including supervision of bookkeeping, payroll, financial documentation, solicitation of vendors for bids and presentation of bids and recommendations to Stewardship Committee. The Office Administrator serves as a conduit of communication from and to church staff, volunteers, members of the church, and those seeking church services."

What you especially like about your current job: Working for a congregation whose members are so overwhelmingly determined to be an embodiment of God's love in this world.

Anything at all you'd care to say: This church is such a special place, living out mission in a way that makes me so grateful to be a small part of it. It is one of the greatest blessings of my life to be here.

Financial Notes			
Financial Report as of 31 May 2021			
General Fund			
	Actual	Budgeted	Over/(Under)
Pledges	\$ 163,838.38	158,333.31	5,505.07
Other Income	\$ 42,333.47	25,584.77	16,748.70
Expense	\$ 225,865.60	218,147.15	7,718.45
Net Income	\$(19,693.75)	(34,229.07)	14,535.32
Division Consolidation			
	May	Year to date	
General Fund Net Income (Expense)	(7,526.49)	(19,693.75)	
Child Care Center Net Income (Expense)	(773.03)	(2,469.56)	
Deacons Net Income (Expense)	491.03	7,907.26	
NET OPERATING INCOME (EXPENSE)	(7,808.49)	(14,255.05)	

Session 2021

Sandy Tice, Moderator; Wendy Lamb, CLP; Amy Smith, Clerk of Session

Building and Grounds: Alex Smith (chair), Mark Freeman, Tim Usher

Nurture: Stephanie Fletcher (chair), Jeanne Clark, Lynda Savage

Stewardship: Brooke Dvorak (chair), Margaret Doane, Susan Skoglund,

Worship: Mary Bolaños (chair), Carol Cooper, Melodee Kistner

Board of Deacons 2021

Martha Pinckney, Moderator; Steve Smith, Pastoral Support

Congregational Care: Carol Valentine (chair), Robin Edwards, Sharon Landeros, Joyce Lyons,
Martha Pinckney, Sue Zeitler

Community Ministry: Marianna Fowles (chair), Rebecca Allen, Carmen Avila, Janet McKinster,
Joanna Nord

Food Ministry: Dan Direen (chair), Mark Adelson, Jim Siegmund, Chris Thomas

The Summer 2021 Internship Team by Rick Rodriguez, Intern Supervisor

On June 8, 2021 our Interviewing/Hiring Team—Steve Smith, Melodee Kistner, and Mark Adelson—interviewed all of our applicants for the Summer Internship Program. This is a task that is both enjoyable and difficult at the same time. They get to talk with all of our applicants, but then have to decide who gets hired and who does not. They also have to decide which two get hired for the position of Team Leader. This can be a very difficult decision to make when we have so many applicants who are qualified for the position. Our Interviewing/Hiring Team once again put together an excellent intern team.

Our Team Leaders for our Summer Team are Adrian Macias and Shelly Ortiz. The Interns are Ariana Aceves, Itzel Aguilar, Isabel Arroyo and Marlene Olivas. They have already worked three days and two of those days were for the preparation for the June Food Distribution the day before and Food Distribution on June 19th. After Food Distribution, they prepared Fellowship Hall for our indoor service the next day. Those of us who have had the chance to work with this team have been impressed with their enthusiasm and the hard work they have been putting in so far this summer.

There are three members of this team who just graduated from San Bernardino High School, Isabel Arroyo, Marlene Olivas and Shelly Ortiz, so this will be the last time they can be on the Intern Team. Time goes by so fast. I remember when they started as sophomores. We tell all of the students who are part of the LifeSkillz program, “Once in LifeSkillz, always in LifeSkillz.” All of our interns come from the LifeSkillz program, so once an intern, always an intern.

As always our team of interns look forward to working around the church campus, making it look better, learning some things and making a little bit of money at the same time. Say “Hi” to our interns if you see them around the church campus.



Preparing for food distribution



Itzel waiting to put food in the next car



SUMMER CAMP

July 4th-10th: 4-6th Grade

July 11th-17th: Middle School

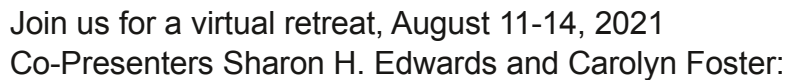
Biblical teaching and solo spiritual exploration,
Creative Games, arts and crafts, and activities,

Group discussions and authentic worship,

Lifelong friendships, unforgettable memories, and a week of fun!

Find registration information at <https://www.bigbearlakechristianconferencecenter.com/our-program>

There is scholarship help available from both the church and the Presbytery.



THEME: Human beings encounter change and transition in three predictable stages, from an ending of the old reality, through a time of liminality where nothing feels settled, finally emerging to a new beginning. In all these stages, but especially in the in-between times, spiritual and creative practices that engage the body can help with disorientation, strengthening resilience and emotional balance. In this retreat, Rev. Sharon Holt Edwards will guide us through an exploration of neurobiology, body wisdom, and healing work, while Carolyn Foster will offer us creative practices that ease transitions, even welcome ones such as the waning of the pandemic.

- Learn how our neurophysiology influences all aspects of our health, decision-making, beliefs and perspectives, and experiences of God
- Engage in ancient and new spiritual practices that increase bodily well-being, including moving meditation, gentle yoga, chanting, and prayer.
- Clarify our paths forward out of this liminal time with creative writing exercises

COST: \$85.00 (Scholarship help may be available.)

July Celebrations

Jul 1	Nancy Sellas
Jul 3	Mario Bolaños Brett Valentine Phil & Lynda Savage
Jul 4	Michael & Rose Gareau
Jul 6	Judy Etherton Dennis Stafford
Jul 7	Merry Beth Grindahl Jim & Dawn Morris
Jul 8	Josie Babcock Ken & Amanda Mancha
Jul 10	Jim Carter Doris Nord Donna Feit Kevin & Wendy Lamb Gill Snyder
Jul 11	Judy Brewer Caden Eckert
Jul 12	Emily Kistner Trevor Cummings Sherman & Joanne Ballard
Jul 13	Matt & Erica Thomas
Jul 14	Margaret Doane Jill Morin
Jul 17	Sandy Tice
Jul 19	Linda Tiger
Jul 20	Ernie Garcia Ryan Nord
Jul 21	Donna Garza Ezra Joseph Morales
Jul 22	Helen Babcock Dennis & Laurie Stafford
Jul 23	Cheryl Direen Kevin Lamb
Jul 24	Larry Marona Elizabeth Franklin-Morales Gary Saenz
Jul 25	Nick Eckert
Jul 28	Wanda Gernux & Bill McIntosh
	Charlene Peterson
Jul 29	Matt Thomas
Jul 30	Linda Kaufman Marilyn & Jerry Patterson
Jul 31	Caden & Nick Eckert Olive Jean Eckert



When did we See you?
Matthew 25: 31-45

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JULY 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27 10:30 AM Worship Service (YouTube Livestream)	28	29	30	1 3:00 PM Sally Morris Memorial Service	2 9:30 AM Kerygma	3 10:00 AM Straight Up AA
4 10:30 AM Worship Service (in person/YouTube Livestream)	5 Church Office Closed.	6	7	8	9 9:30 AM Kerygma	10 10:00 AM Straight Up AA
11 10:30 AM Worship Service (In person/YouTube livestream)	12	13 6:30 PM Deacon Committees 7:30 PM Deacon Board	14 4:30 PM Worship Committee	15 Deadline for First Press articles 5:30 PM Buildings & Grounds Committee	16 8:30 AM Food Bagging 9:30 AM Kerygma	17 9:00 AM Deacon Food Distribution 10:00 AM Straight Up AA
18 10:30 AM Worship Service (in person/YouTube Livestream)	19	20 7:00 PM M.A.L.E.s	21 5:30 PM Stewardship Committee	22	23 9:30 AM Kerygma	24 10:00 AM Straight Up AA
25 10:30 AM Worship Service (in person/YouTube Livestream)	26	27	28 5:30 PM SESSION	29	30 9:30 AM Kerygma	31 10:00 AM Straight Up AA

First Presbyterian Church of San Bernardino

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Monday-Thursday
9am to 4:30 pm

The Rev. Dr. Sandy Tice
Pastor

Dr. Wendy Long Lamb
Commissioned Local Pastor

The Rev. Dr. Steve Smith
Pastoral Support

Caden Eckert
Seminary Intern

Melinda Rueda
Laurie Stafford
Ministry of Visitation

The Rev. Jim Huffstutler
Pastor Emeritus

It is the Mission of First Presbyterian Church of San Bernardino, inspired by the Holy Spirit, to proclaim the good news of the Gospel of Jesus Christ through worship and celebration, and teaching and learning, so that lives are transformed and members are encouraged to use their special gifts to care for and value, as God's Beloved, each other and the community in which we live.